

Dear Parents and Carers

Week three is complete! After what felt like a very long first week, the last couple of weeks have flown by in a flurry of activity. I've noticed some very tired little ones moving slowly through the playground these past few mornings — we sometimes forget what a big step it is for children as they settle into new classes. They are all doing brilliantly.

Yesterday, it was a privilege to join other Catholic schools across the local area for the Centenary Deanery Mass at St Joseph's, Ansdell. A small group of our Year 6 children represented us so proudly, and of course we brought along Luce, our Year of Hope mascot.

Today, our lucky Year 5 and 6 children travelled to The Grand Theatre to meet the fantastic author Katherine Rundell. What an exciting and inspiring opportunity for their own writing journeys!

In school, we have been embracing a research-based approach to behaviour and self-regulation called *The Good Morning Club*. As part of this, some of your children may have been chosen as their Class VIP. Each day, one child is selected, and their classmates share why they think that person is special. This has been a wonderful addition to our new end-of-day routines, which also include *Spotlight* — a chance for anyone to nominate someone who has impressed them during the day, with reasons why.

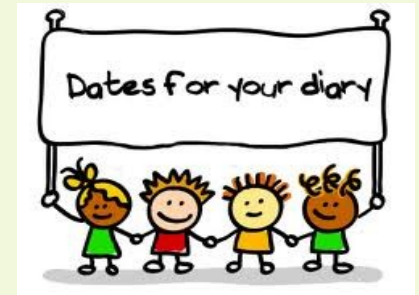
Every classroom also now has a newly designed 'Calm Area', with a variety of resources. The children use a range of whole-class activities throughout the day to support self-regulation. We have already seen a really positive impact on classroom atmosphere, children's wellbeing, and the calm climate across school. Look out for details of our Parent Session next term, once we've had more time to embed these routines.

This week we have our second Parish Family Mass at 9.15am at St Joseph's - we'd love to see you there.

I hope you have a relaxing weekend.

God Bless

Mrs Gili-Ross



SEPTEMBER

Sun 21 Family Mass at St Josephs

Thur 25 St Bede's Open Evening

6pm—8:30pm

Mon 29 Year 5 Class Mass—11am

OCTOBER

Wed 1 Open Day 10am—12 noon &
5:30pm—7pm

Mon 6 Reception & Year 6 Class
mass 11am

Wed 8 Y5 London Trip

Mon 13 Year 1 Class Mass 11am

Wed 15 Harvest Festival Lunch

Fri 17 Grandparents afternoon 2pm

Tue 21 Parents Evening

Wed 22 Parents Evening

Fri 24 Break the Rules Day

Fri 24 School closes for half-term



St. Josephs Ansdell and St. Peter's Lytham

This Sunday 20th September
9:15am at St. Joseph's
Sunday Morning Mass
Led by Children from the School
and from the Parish



All Welcome!

Children's Liturgy at the 10:30am mass at
St. Peter's as usual!

OPEN DAY

WEDS 1ST OCTOBER



Do you have a little one starting school in September 2026?

We'd love to welcome you and show you what's in store for our newest pupils!

Join us for our **Open Day on Wednesday 1st October**
10:00am – 12:00 noon or
5:30pm – 7:00pm

Come along to meet the team, see our learning spaces, and hear more about how we support children as they begin their school journey.

If you have friends or family who might be looking for a school place, please do share this invitation – we'd be delighted to meet them too!

We're looking forward to seeing both familiar and new faces!

SCHOOL LIFE

Reminder

Please check the school uniform you have at home has your family name in it. We have several named items reported missing and many un-named items at school.



SOCK DONATION

We are looking for donations of spare socks for our OPAL play. If you have any spare, they would be greatly received!

Please leave at the school office

FREE SCHOOL MEALS INFORMATION

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to universal free school meals. However, some families who are on low income and meet a certain criteria, are also eligible for supermarket shopping vouchers during school holidays and free holiday club places. Eligible families will continue to receive free school meals after Year 2.

Some families with children in Key Stage 1 do not claim as they are already getting free school meals, however they are missing out on the other benefits so please double check.

Please click on the link below to see if you are eligible.

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/free-school-meals/?page=1>

SNACKS AVAILABLE FOR KS2 PUPILS

Brown or White toast	25p
Crumpet	35p
Tea Cake	45p
Orange or Apple juice	50p

PE DAYS

REC	WEDS & FRI
Y1	MON & THURS
Y2	TUES & FRI
Y3	TUES & WEDS (swimming)
Y4	MON & THURS
Y5	WEDS & FRI
Y6	WEDS & THURS

School lunches

Please order lunches via Scopay—w.c. 22nd
September—SPRING/SUMMER MENU

Week 1, please see menu [HERE](#)



We have a special themed lunch on Wednesday
15th October—

Harvest Festival Lunch

Please see details below

Harvest Festival

WEDS 15TH OCTOBER

Savoury Beef	Mince
& Yorkshire Pudding with Creamy Mashed Potato & Seasonal Vegetables or Winter Warming Pasta Bake with Garlic Dough Balls or Choice of filled Jacket Potato with Mixed Salad ~ Oaty Flapjack & Apple Wedges	

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Lancashire
County Council

COMMUNITY INFO & EVENTS



Saint Bede's
Catholic High School
Fons Sapientiae – Fount of Wisdom



OPEN EVENING
2025

THURSDAY 25th SEPTEMBER

6:00pm - 8:30pm

PRESENTATION BY MR MARSDEN, HEADTEACHER, AT 6:15PM AND 7:15PM

Saint Bede's Catholic High School

TALBOT ROAD, LYTHAM ST ANNES, FY8 4JL | TEL 01253 737174



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B Active Gym, Mill Lane, Warton, PR4 1AX

The advert above has been included as a thank you for the organisation's generous support with recent school fundraising. We're grateful for their contribution to our community.



Hays Travel



BRANCHES TO BEACHES



October | 5TH | 9AM

**OUR INCREDIBLE TEAM IS LACING UP THEIR SHOES
AND WALKING FROM LYTHAM TO CLEVELEYS RAISING
FUNDS FOR THE COASTAL COLLECTIVE – AND THEY
NEED YOUR SUPPORT!**

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Collective

gofundme



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SNAP STREAK

97

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

With over 900 million active monthly users and billions of 'Snaps' sent each month, Snapchat is a popular messaging app among children and young people. It allows users to share fun, spontaneous pictures and videos with friends and family while using playful filters. One of Snapchat's unique features is that pictures, videos and messages are only viewable for a short period of time.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Snapchat's use of artificial intelligence (AI) includes features like the 'My AI' chatbot and AI-powered filters, offering interactive experiences that can be fun but also pose risks. These tools may share unfiltered or inaccurate responses, promote unrealistic beauty standards, and collect personal data. Advanced filters and deepfake-style lenses can distort reality, potentially leading to manipulation, impersonation, or inappropriate content.

SCREEN ADDICTION

Snapchat boosts user engagement and daily use with features like streaks (daily Snapchat exchanges between you and a friend). When a streak's been going for a few days, users will see a 🌟 emoji. The number alongside it shows the number of days, but if users miss a day and break the streak, the only way to restore it is to pay. This encourages daily use habits, and frequent notifications can keep users returning to the app even more often.

SEXTORTION

Because Snapchat's disappearing messages feature may foster a sense of safety, users may become targets of sextortion. For example, a predator may pressure someone into sending nude images, then somehow capture those images to threaten and intimidate the victim. This might involve claiming they will share the images with friends or family unless money is paid.

SNAPCHAT+

Snapchat+ is the platform's premium subscription service, offering early access to new and exclusive features. In June 2025, Snapchat introduced a new tier called Lens+, giving subscribers access to hundreds of lenses and AR experiences for playing, creating, and sharing Snaps. These paid features may encourage young users to spend money to access exclusive content, increasing the risk of overspending or feeling pressured to make in-app purchases.

ACCESSIBILITY

Snapchat is now accessible from a web browser, meaning children can use it on a laptop or tablet without downloading the app. This can make activity harder to monitor, reduce the effectiveness of parental controls, and increase the risk of unsupervised communication or exposure to inappropriate content.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's disappearing messages feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ACCESS THE SNAPCHAT FAMILY SAFETY HUB

Created with guidance from Common Sense Media, Snapchat has developed a Family Safety Hub that explains how the app works and how to use its in-app protections for teens. It's recommended that you review this guidance before allowing a child to download Snapchat. Remember, the app is only intended for children aged 13 and over.

BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger connects with a child on Snapchat and makes them feel uncomfortable by pressuring them to send or receive unwanted or inappropriate images, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile to report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user, with a tailored reporting section under the 'Nudity and Sexual Content' category. In this category, there's the option to report somebody for threatening to leak sexually explicit images, or 'nudes'.

ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.

USE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Sit down with the children in your care and explore Snapchat's privacy settings as a shared activity. You can help them adjust who can contact them, view their stories, or see their location on Snap Map. It's a good opportunity to explain why some settings are safer than others, reinforcing their understanding of online boundaries. Encourage them to regularly review these settings, especially after app updates or changes in their friendship groups.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/snapchat>

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